

a¹ 4. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation manager of claim 1, wherein the allocation criteria received from the subscriber comprises a subscriber reservation request identifying a date and time that the subscriber wishes to reserve for viewing a program in the future.

6. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation manager of claim 1, wherein the bandwidth allocation manager processes a plurality of allocation criteria according to a statistical model to determine a bandwidth allocation schedule, wherein the statistical model assigns a weight to each of the allocation criteria and wherein the assigned weight determines the priority given to each allocation criteria.

a² 7. (Once Amended) A bandwidth allocation system in a digital broadband delivery system comprising:

a bandwidth allocation manager that determines a bandwidth allocation schedule in the digital broadband delivery system based at least partially on an allocation criteria received from a subscriber by assigning at least two different content delivery modes to a plurality of digital transmission channels; and

a network manager in communication with the bandwidth allocation manager, where the network manager allocates bandwidth according to the bandwidth allocation schedule determined by the bandwidth allocation manager.

a³ 9. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation system of claim 7, wherein the at least two different content delivery modes are selected from the group consisting of pay-per-view, video-on-demand, and near video-on-demand.

10. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation system of claim 7, wherein the allocation criteria received from the subscriber comprises a subscriber reservation request identifying a date and time that the subscriber wishes to reserve for viewing a program in the future.

a⁴ 12. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation system of claim 7, wherein the bandwidth allocation manager processes a plurality of allocation criteria according to a statistical model to determine a bandwidth allocation schedule, wherein the statistical model assigns a weight to each of the allocation criteria and wherein the assigned weight determines the priority given to each allocation criteria.

13. (Once Amended) The bandwidth allocation system of claim 7, wherein at least one content delivery mode comprises a video content delivery mode wherein at least three instances of a same video content at time-spaced intervals of varying length.

14. (Once Amended) A digital home communication terminal for use in a digital broadband delivery system containing a bandwidth allocation manager comprising:

an interface that receives a subscriber reservation request identifying a date and time that the subscriber wishes to reserve for viewing a program in the future;

a tuner that transmits the subscriber criteria to the bandwidth allocation manager for use in dynamically allocating bandwidth in the digital broadband delivery system.

15. (Once Amended) The digital home communication terminal of claim 14, further comprising a tuner that receives channel allocation information from the bandwidth allocation manager and processes the information into a format suitable for presentation to a subscriber, and wherein the channel allocation information comprises VOD catalogue data that provides variable fee structures for a particular program.

19. (Once Amended) A method for allocating bandwidth in a digital broadband delivery system comprising:

initiating a bandwidth allocation event;

receiving an allocation criteria from a subscriber; and

dynamically determining a bandwidth allocation schedule based at least partially on the allocation criteria received from the subscriber by dynamically assigning at least two different content delivery modes to a plurality of digital transmission channels.

21. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least two different content delivery modes are selected from the group consisting of pay-per-view, video-on-demand, and near video-on-demand.

22. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one content delivery mode comprises a content delivery mode wherein at least three instances of a same video content are transmitted at predetermined time-spaced intervals of varying length.

ab 23. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein receiving an allocation criteria from a subscriber comprises receiving an allocation criteria comprising a subscriber reservation request identifying a date and time that the subscriber wishes to reserve for viewing a program in the future.

a7 25. (Once Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein dynamically determining a bandwidth allocation schedule based at least partially on the allocation criteria received from the subscriber includes processing the allocation criteria according to a statistical model, wherein the statistical model assigns a weight to each of the allocation criteria and wherein the assigned weight determines the priority given to each allocation criteria.

Please add the following new claims

27. The bandwidth allocation manager of claim 4, wherein the subscriber reservation request comprises a plurality of subscriber preferences identifying a preferred content delivery mode and a price the subscriber is willing to pay to have the reservation request fulfilled.

ae 28. The bandwidth allocation system of claim 7, wherein the subscriber reservation request comprises a plurality of subscriber preferences identifying a preferred content delivery mode and a price the subscriber is willing to pay to have the reservation request fulfilled.

29. The digital home communication terminal of claim 14, wherein the subscriber reservation request comprises a plurality of subscriber preferences identifying a preferred content delivery mode and a price the subscriber is willing to pay to have the reservation request fulfilled.
